

# CRYSTAL TOWNSHIP

## Board Meeting

June 19, 2023

**This meeting was called to order by Supervisor Hyslop at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance recited.**

**Roll Call:** Board Members present: Lynn Gardner, Catherine Walker, Lee Hyslop, Rosalie Sauser, Kyle Oomen

**ABSENT:** None

**Guests Present:** Ron Smith, Betty J. Dailey Nugent, Gary Gardner, Gary McKeen, Paul Erickson, Unknown Citizen

**Approval of Previous Month's Meeting Minutes:** The May 15th, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes and June 5<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting Minutes were presented. **Motion by Gardner and supported by Walker to approve both the May 15 Board Meeting Minutes and June 5 Special Meeting Minutes. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.**

**Changes to Agenda:** Lee forgot to add Clerks Report but Clerks Report was included.

**Citizen Comments:** Gary McKeen (Oceana County Parks) thanked the Lead and Trustees for going forward and working with Pam Blough on the development for the grant application. Pam worked on the print for the Crystal Park and was able to meet with the Trustees and Supervisor and put together the print in a timely manner, did a wonderful job. John Wilson and Trustees did a lot of hard work as well.

**Letters and Communications:** Lee received some letters regarding the roads and dust control.

**Fire Department Report:** Fire Chief Allen Purdy reported everything is going well, has been quiet. Hyslop questioned the areas covered by the Walkerville Fire Department. Chief Purdy reported that Elbridge Township, Leavitt Township and Colfax Township are all served by the Walkerville Fire Department.

**Zoning Report:** Ron Smith submitted his zoning report. He wrote four zoning permits. The BSA Software has been updated so new property owners from the last three years can be added to the maps. Ron attended the Land Bank and got five demolitions approved for Blight Clean-up. Ron removed 9 more signs that were not permitted in the township. Ron contacted the owners to come and get them. They did not come and get them so after two weeks they were placed in a dumpster. There are two properties being cleaned up with dumpsters at them. That's it for this month.

**Clerk's Report:** Everything is looking good. Fire Department pay is this month so there are more checks than normal, but nothing out of the ordinary.

**Review and Pay Bills:** June 2023 bills were presented in the amount of \$14,487.29. Lee is looking into brining charge and wants to verify we were not over-charged for brining of Madison Rd. **Motion by Oomen and supported by Sauser to approve the payment of claims as presented (with corrections made to the total from a typed mistake). Voice Vote. Motion Carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Walker presented the May 2023 Treasurer's Report.

Beginning Balance	Cash Receipts	Cash Disbursements	Current Balance
\$337,662.60	\$35,127.96	\$10,907.86	\$361,882.70

Walker also noted the new tax season is starting and bills will need to be sent out by July 1, 2023. Walker, Gardner and Ron Smith will meet one day in the last week of June to fill envelopes and get them mailed out. Walker and Hyslop talked about adding a Newsletter to be sent with the tax bills to share our news of the township. Hyslop will put that together to be sent with tax bills.

**Supervisor's Report:**

Approved 7/17/23

- **Farm Road Project:** Hyslop met with Joe Colyn (Grant Writer) and Curtis Burdette (from Economic Development) for about 3 ½ hours. They drove the roads and developed a good understanding of what the citizens and farmers have to deal with on a daily basis. They put together a plan. All three have tasks they have to work on before their next meeting. It will take quite a bit of time to get this project completed. It takes time to get response from people and trying to get the County Road Commission together on the same page but Hyslop feels it will get done with the right people and engineering.
- **Blight Grant:** Hyslop and Ron Smith have been working together to get the Blight Grant. Grant request was submitted with five proposed properties. The owners of the property have to sign an agreement that the government can put a lien on their property for seven years if they don't sell or transfer the property then the lien goes away. The total estimates came in at about \$192,000, part of it because some of them have asbestos in them. It is not known when we will get responses back on the grant request.
- **MTA - United Way:** Hyslop met with Barbara Saunders-Sims from United Way who is willing to help with anyone needing help. Hyslop stated we have resources and help in various areas for anyone who is struggling and needs help in any way (mental help, financial help, medical help, housing, etc). He will have a file made up for the Board to use if needed.
- **Crystal Valley Park Redevelopment Grant:** Pam Blough did an outstanding job putting together a plan and map of the park proposal. Citizens have put in their comments and thoughts on what they would like to see in the park. The park map was handed out to the audience and Hyslop did a review of the map to explain some of the items on it. The Grant dollar amount is for \$1,000,000 and the Architectural plan came in at \$1,700,000. So parts of the plan will have to go away and changes be made. Hyslop is having a zoom meeting with the developers (Pam Blough) tomorrow (6/20/23). Hyslop asked for citizens comments or suggestions again. He has to sign off on the proposal by Monday before midnight. He and John Wilson will be going over it together before the deadline and pulling a few things out of it. Hyslop would love to see this park become a beautiful place that would service people for 30 – 50 years, after we are gone. It would be a big deal and would be happy and hopes it will go through.

**Old Business:** Hyslop mentioned the check that was approved for the J.E. Tiffany (dam project) was sent out and was wondering what the status was with it. Paul Erickson stated he spoke with him and he had not received it yet. He was also invited to meet with Pam Blough but was not able to but he was very impressed with the drawing and seeing what is proposed to surround the dam.

**New Business:** Was covered (Redevelopment of the Crystal Valley County Park).

**Public Comments:** Sauser asked if we would still have the ball field. She stated it is used frequently. Hyslop stated it would still be there but may not be developed to the extent it was proposed. But there would be improvements. Betty Dailey Nugent stated she was contacted to see if she would be interested in writing a letter for the dam. Paul Erickson noted the Newspaper was present at this meeting and would be reporting on what's going on with our meeting and the proposed park. Hyslop noted that while he was working at the park painting the pavilion several people stopped in at the park. One couple (hikers) stated they were following a brochure from Silver Lake Sand Dunes that directed them to stop in at the park to see the walking trail and checked out the dam. Hyslop asked for those involved with the grants, what the time table looks like for the next step on this park grant request. Gary McKeen stated that each grant is different but they are hoping to hear something by the fall. Paul Erickson also mentioned that the new park proposal with the new parking, lighting, gating will help reduce the vandalism and is excited to see the new utilization that will come with the upgrade to the park. Oomen mentioned he was happy as well with Pam Bloughs proposal and the work that she did in the short time and the help from the citizens comments.

No further comments or questions.

**Motion to Adjourn at 7:50 by Hyslop, Oomen second. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Gardner

Approved 7/17/23